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THURSDAY
OCTOBER 29, 1953

This morning I went over to see Sir Cecil Weir, with whom I exchanged views regarding the European steel situation, the present economic condition of the United States, German psychology and, of course, European integration. He has a lively mind and a [redacted] sympathetic perso[redacted]lity. He is at present the only man in the British Foreign Service who is not a careerist although he has now been working in it for many years.

Tommy and I lunched with Monnet and those members of the High Authority who were in Luxembourg. I rode out with Dirk Spierenburg, who says [redacted] the Dutch Parliament will not ratify EPC unless definite provision is made for the eventual attainment of a common market. He has, in conjunction with some of his compatriots, been evolving a compromise that may possibly be put forward by Beyen. It would provide for the taking over of the duties of the Commissariat of the EDC by the Executive of the EPC. That Executive and the European-elected Assembly would be instructed within two years to submit a project for economic integration via the EPC to the parliaments of the participating nations. Meanwhile, the Coal and Steel Community would remain as now constituted and would not be brought under the control of the EPC.

Tonight Monnet, Tommy and myself took the train for Paris. We found Jacques Rueff aboard and all had dinner together at the snack bar. Jacques is tremendously interested in the study now being made at the instigation of the four Presidents of the Community as to a future site for the six-nations capital. He is personally inclined to favor some territory which can be internationalized close to Paris, chiefly because ~~he thinks it would be helpful in~~ allaying French fears of German domination over the Community institutions. Except for that reason, he would have a bias for ~~Monte Carlo, where he lived~~ quite a long time as French Representative with the Monagesque Government.

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I finished on the train tonight the last pages of Teddy White's excellent book "Fire in the Ashes" as well as completing Philippe Erlanger's life of Monsieur, the brother of Louis XIV. This is an admirable biography and apparently the best written on that bizarre character. It gives a comprehensive picture of court life under Louis XIV which leaves one staggered by its corruption.

We were an hour late coming into Paris, so I started on the just published Boswell's tour of Germany and Switzerland.

Tommy had a chance to have a few words with Monnet about the Spierenburg proposal. Jean sees no danger in it, but will give it his consideration.

Tommy and I considered it further, and are inclined to believe it has some merit if it proves definitely true that the Dutch Parliament will not join a political community in the absence of some such economic provisions. In any event, it will have to be regarded in detail for some of the difficulties inherent in it are obvious, such as, in the event CSC remains for some years independent, will its Court and Assembly be merged with those institutions in EPC? One of Monnet's objections is that he thinks the non-inclusion of the attributes of CSC in EPC would cause a great deception amongst the people of Western Europe who had envisaged EPC as an instrument which would take over those portions of sovereignty theretofore delegated to CSC and EDC.

I got to bed at 1:30.

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